

NEWS

EXPRESS MUSIC NEWS

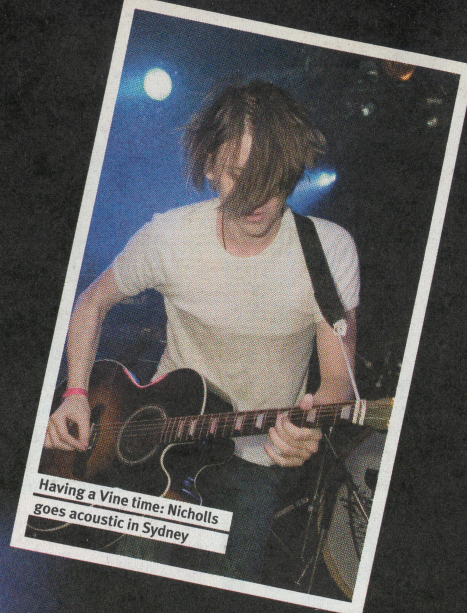
GROUP NEWS EDITOR: JULIAN MARSHALL
Got a story? Phone 020 7261 7241 or email news@nme.com

THE **BIG** PICTURE

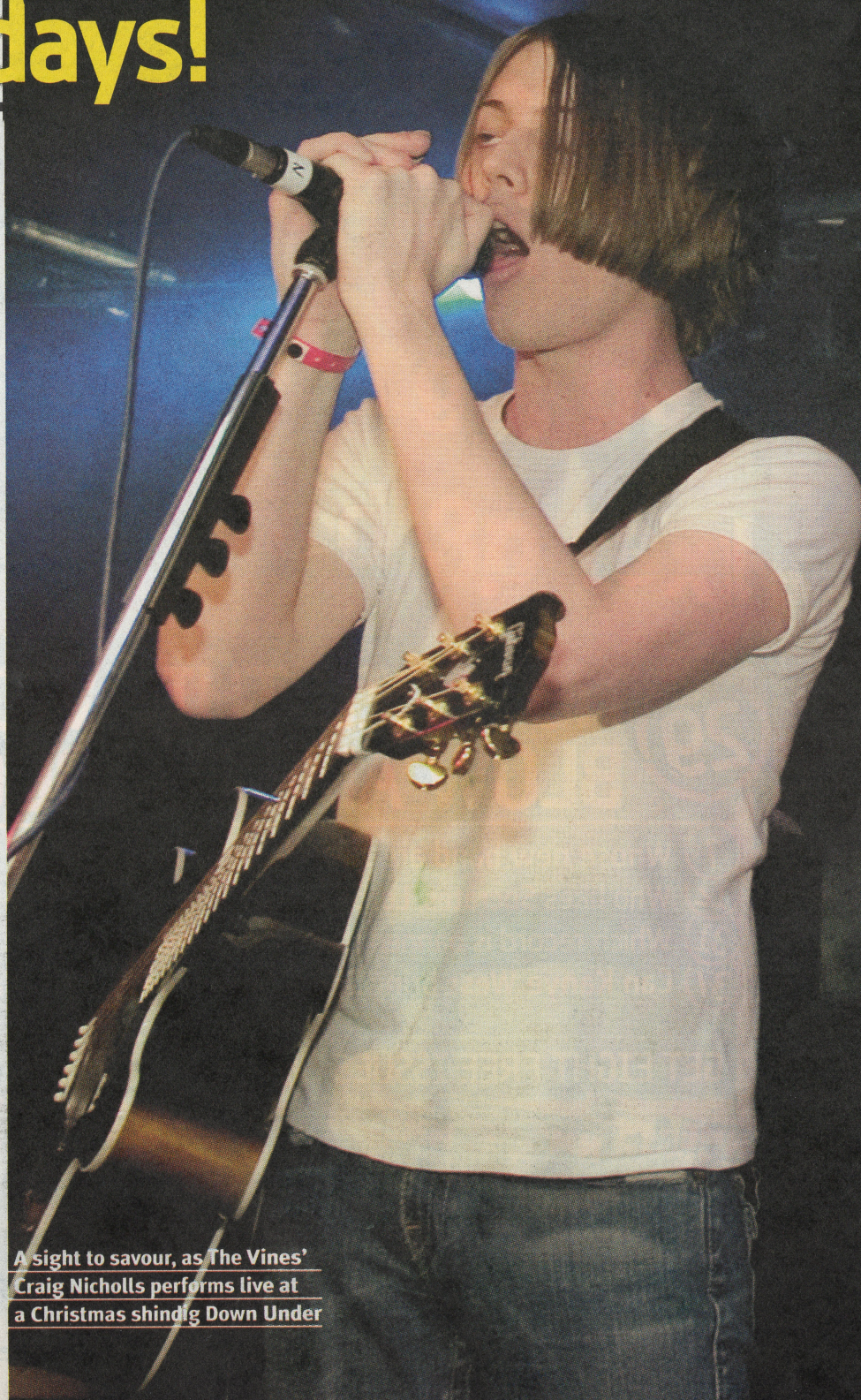
The Vines: back to winning days!

Just days after announcing an end to regular touring, The Vines are back onstage - at the very scene of their meltdown. At his first public appearance since being diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, singer Craig Nicholls joined guitarist Ryan Griffiths for acoustic versions of 'Winning Days' and new track 'Going Gone' during a Christmas party at Sydney's Annandale Hotel. It was at this same venue back in May that it first became publicly clear that Craig's mental problems were too serious to be ignored. But now, playing on a bill that included fellow countrymen Jet, and with The Vines back on course, all the signs are that Craig is heading for a much happier new year.

IAN JENNINGS



Having a Vine time: Nicholls goes acoustic in Sydney



A sight to savour, as The Vines' Craig Nicholls performs live at a Christmas shindig Down Under



Jets in the city: fellow Oz performers make
Nicholls' comeback a night to remember

